



GN Gardening Magazine

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Cover photo: A cornucopia of peppers grown by Louisiana Master Gardener volunteers at the New Orleans Botanical Gardens.

Photo by Chris Dunaway

Peppers - From Sweet to Scorching

Part 1 - The Species

According to the National Gardening Association, the most popular homegrown veggies are tomatoes (86%), cucumbers (47%), sweet peppers (46%), beans (39%), carrots (34%), summer squash (32%), onions (32%), hot peppers (31%), lettuce (28%), peas (24%), and sweet corn (23%). When you consider both sweet and hot peppers together, they are the second most popular homegrown vegetable in the U.S.

Peppers are thought to be native to South America more specifically the areas of modern-day Bolivia and Peru. Peppers have been a part of the human diet for over 7500 years. Evidence points to the first domestication of peppers in Mexico over 6000 years ago; however, there is also evidence that they were also being cultivated in Peru, Bolivia and the Amazon basin. Christopher Columbus took pepper seeds with him back to Europe, and the species quickly spread across the continent appearing in Spanish records by 1493 and spread on to Asia and Africa.

Wild peppers and all of the original cultivated

peppers had some degree of heat/spiciness due to the presence of capsaicin and other related compounds (capsaicinoids). Capsaicin is present in all fleshy parts of the plant but is in highest concentration in the fruit, especially the inner white placental tissue. Removing the seeds and placenta before using hot peppers will reduce the spiciness considerably. Capsaicin is an irritant and neurotoxin to all mammals, including humans. Birds, however, are not affected by capsaicin. Seeds of wild *Capsicum* are often dispersed by birds who eat the fruit and pass the seeds. That also means that you can protect your bird feeder seeds from squirrels, mice, racoons, and other thieves by shaking on a healthy amount of cayenne pepper or chili powder. The mild bell pepper cultivar didn't exist until it was developed in the 1920s, in Szeged, Hungary.

Most of the edible peppers that we are familiar with belong to the *Capsicum annuum* species. Bell, cayenne, ancho, jalapeno, cubanelle, wax, serrano – these are all *Capsicum annuum* varieties. There are



Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

A variety of different pepper varieties grown by Joe Willis in New Orleans

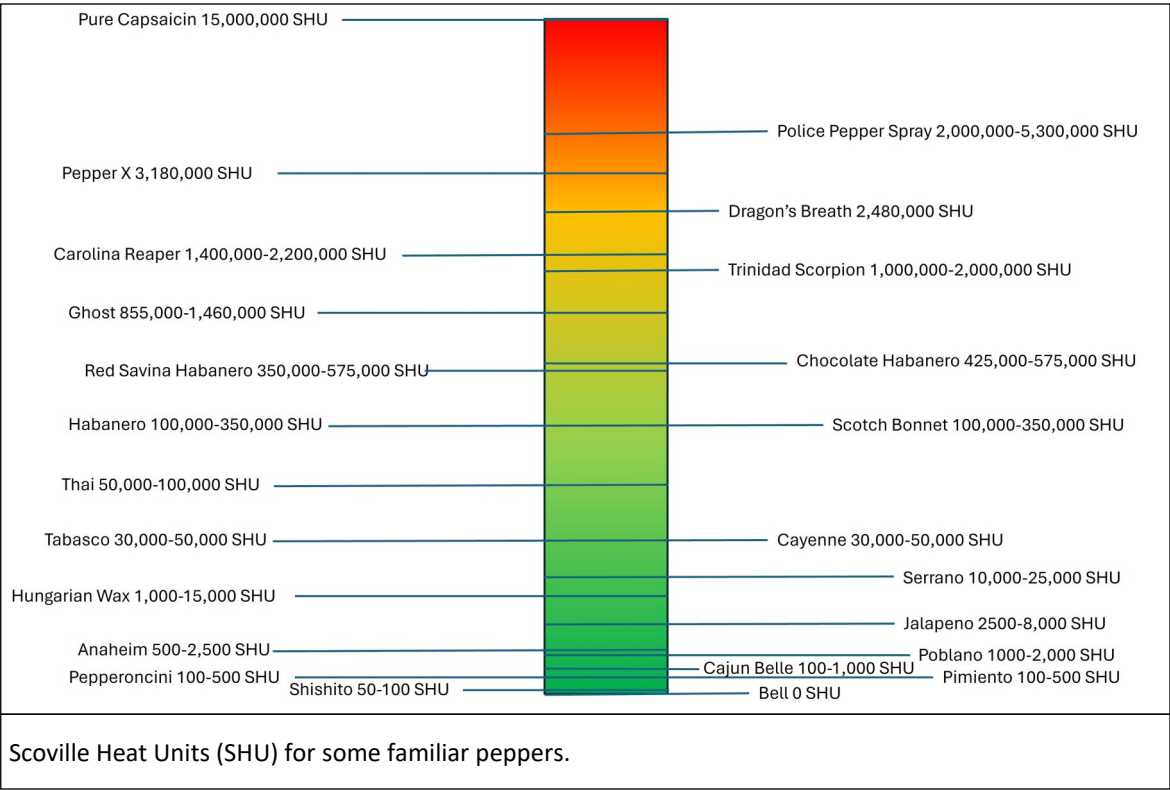
over 25 species of *Capsicum*, five of which are domesticated species that have found their way to our tables – *Capsicum annuum*, *Capsicum baccatum*, *Capsicum chinense*, *Capsicum frutescens*, *Capsicum pubescens*. Some estimates put the number of pepper varieties grown worldwide at over 50,000. This may be an overestimate, but just looking through any seed catalog tells you there are a lot. Most of these are in the *Capsicum annuum* species.

Scoville Heat Units (SHU)

The Scoville Scale was invented in 1912 by an American pharmacologist named Wilbur Scoville. Scoville devised a way of testing the pungency of chili peppers by making an extract and then diluting it with sugar water until a panel of trained tasters could no longer detect any capsaicin. The number of dilutions required to reach this point is expressed as Scoville Heat Units (SHU). Since the test depended on the inherent ability of panel members to detect the heat, it could have a wide range.

Since the 1980s, pungency has been assessed quantitatively using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). HPLC measures the concentration of heat-producing capsaicinoids in a standardized extract. This concentration in parts per million (ppm) is then related back to Scoville Heat Units by multiplying ppm by 16.

SHU values for any pepper variety are variable due to genetic variation within a variety as well as growing conditions like climate, humidity, water availability, and soil nutrient composition. This variability can be by a factor of 10 or more.



There are five levels of pungency based on the use of Scoville heat units (SHU): non-pungent (0–700 SHU), mildly pungent (700–3,000 SHU), moderately pungent (3,000–25,000 SHU), highly pungent (25,000–70,000 SHU), and very highly pungent (>80,000 SHU).

More commonly used terminology is sweet (0-700 SHU); mild (700-2500 SHU); medium (2500-10,000 SHU); hot (10,000-50,000 SHU); very hot (50,000-350,000 SHU); extremely hot (350,000-900,000 SHU); and super hot (>900,000 SHU).

Pepper Anatomy

Peppers are fruits and more specifically, berries. In botany, a berry is a fleshy fruit without a central pit or stone that develops from a single flower containing one ovary.

Peppers are members of the Solanaceae family. Flowers, generally, are complete with five or more flower parts and the petals are partially fused. Flower color and morphology are the major ways to distinguish the 5 domesticated species.

Capsicum annuum

This species is cultivated around the world and has the greatest number of varieties and the most diversity of shapes, colors, sizes, and flavors. The

spiciness may be completely absent or sweet, as with bell peppers; mild, as with Cajun belles; medium, as with jalapenos; hot or very hot, as with serranos and cayennes. Most peppers sold as ornamental peppers are in this species. 0-350,000 SHU

The flowers of *Capsicum annuum* varieties are white, purple, or white bordered with purple with no spots on the petals. They generally have 5 petals and one flower per node.

Capsicum baccatum

Capsicum baccatum varieties have pendulous white flowers with 4-9 petals having yellow or green dots. There is normally one flower per node. Variety names often have "aji" in

the name. There are a few mild to medium varieties but most are hot. Common varieties include Aji Rico, Brazilian starfish, and Christmas bell. 2500-50,000 SHU

Capsicum chinense

Capsicum chinense is a misnomer because these peppers are native to the Amazon basin and not China. Most varieties have greenish-white flowers

with purple anthers with some varieties having white petals with purple spots. There are generally 5-6

petals and a ring-shaped constriction on the petiole just before the fruit. There are 2 or more flowers per node. Though there are a few mildly spicy varieties, this species is known for the extremely hot varieties.

Common varieties include habanero, ghost pepper, scorpion, Scotch bonnet, and the Carolina reaper. 500-1,350,000 SHU

Capsicum frutescens

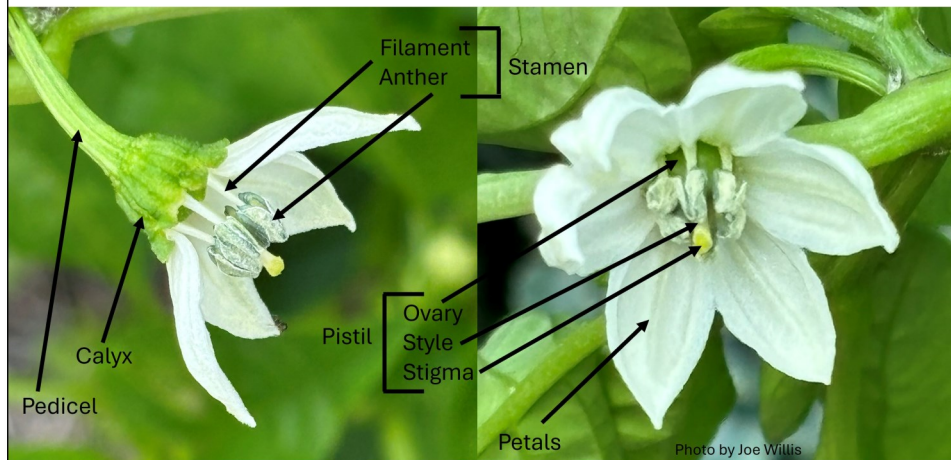
Capsicum frutescens varieties have white to greenish flowers with 5-6 petals, purple anthers, and no spots on the corolla. There is normally one and sometimes two

flowers per node. Fruits are held erect and are easily detached from the pedicel. Fruits are very spicy. Plants tend to be very bushy in habit. The most common variety is tabasco. 30,000-900,000 SHU

Capsicum pubescens

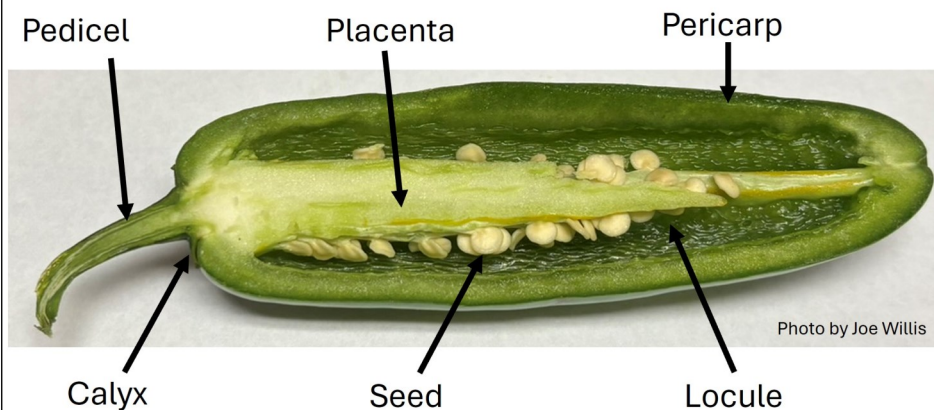
Capsicum pubescens have purple flowers and the seeds are black. Flowers are held erect and there are 1-2 per node. Pubescens means hairy and the plants

Pepper Flower Anatomy



Typical pepper flower with parts labeled.

Pepper Fruit Anatomy



Anatomy of the typical pepper fruit (a berry). Note the location of the placenta which contains most of the capsaicin.

have hairy leaves. Only a few varieties of *Capsicum* *pubescens* are available, the most common being rocoto. The fruits are very hot. 50,000-350,000 SHU.

~ Joe W. Willis

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Capsicum annuum



Capsicum baccatum



Capsicum chinense



Capsicum frutescens



Capsicum pubescens

The five domesticated species of Capsicum. Note the distinguishing differences as discussed in the text.

June Planting Guide

Crop	Recommended Variety
Cantaloupe	Ambrosia, Aphrodite, Athena, Primo, Vienna
Collards	Champion, Flash, Georgia, Top Bunch, Yates
Cucuzza	None Given
Eggplant	Dusky, Night Shadow, Epic, Santana, Calliope
Hot Peppers (transplant)	Grande, Tula, Mariachi, Mitla,
Luffa Gourd	None Given
Okra	Annie Oakley, Cajun Delight, Clemson Spineless
Peanuts	None Given
Pumpkins	Atlantic Giant, Baby Bear, Prankster, Sorcerer
Southern Peas	Queen Anne, California #5, Quickpick, Colussus
Sweet Potato	Beauregard, Evangeline, Hernandez, Jewel
Swiss Chard	None Given
Watermelon	Seedless: Cooperstown, Gypsy, Matrix, Millennium Seeded: Mickey Lee, Sugar Baby, Amarillo

July Vegetable Planting Guide

Start Seeds for Transplant		Direct Seed or Transplant		
Broccoli	Cauliflower	Cantaloupe	Luffa Gourd	Shallots
Brussels Sprouts	Bell Peppers	Collards	Okra	Southern
Cabbage	Tomatoes	Cucumbers	Pumpkins	Peas

August Vegetable Planting Guide

Bell Peppers	Cauliflower	Irish Potatoes	Mustard	Snap Beans
Broccoli	Chinese Cabbage	Kale	Pumpkins	Squash
Brussels Sprouts	Collards	Lima Beans	Rutabaga	Tomatoes
Cabbage	Cucumbers	Luffa Gourd	Shallots	Turnips

Disease of the Month:

Bacterial Leaf Spot of Peach

Peaches aren't one of the more commonly grown fruits in our area, due to the extremely high disease pressure that our climate's heat and humidity impart. For those that do have a peach tree or two in their home orchard, bacterial leaf spot, also called shot hole disease, is a major issue. Caused by the pathogen *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *pruni*, spots and blotches on the leaves of peaches and other stone fruits like plum and nectarines can be difficult to manage.

This disease can infect foliage, twigs, and fruit. It causes small, water-soaked lesions on the leaves at the earliest sign of infection. The spots first appear on the leaf tips or along the leaf mid vein, but quickly spread and enlarge. The edges of the spots tend to be angular versus rounded. As they develop, the spots darken to a purple color, and eventually die and fall out. Severely impacted leaves can turn yellow and fall. On more susceptible cultivars or weaker trees, this can lead to defoliation. This can weaken trees further and

cause fruit to drop.

Spots can also appear on the rind of the developing fruit and on young, tender twigs. Spots on the fruit can progress into sunken pits on the fruit surface, and

lead to cracking. Though not appealing, spotting on the fruit generally does not diminish its edibility. The cankers on the twigs are where this pathogen overwinters, and it can survive for more than one year if untreated. Bacterial leaf spot develops when the weather is warm and there are frequent rains and high humidity. The bacteria can be spread from tree to tree by hard, wind-driven rains.

This disease can be managed through a combination of choosing resistant



Photo by Anna Timmerman

Early signs of bacterial leaf spot on peach tree leaves.

peach cultivars and applying a fungicide when conditions for the disease to spread become favorable. Apply fungicide products that contain copper at least once during the dormant period to diminish the overwintering bacteria population in the twigs. Apply copper monthly March through October in the GNO area to prevent infection and control the

spread of the bacteria if it is already present in your trees.

Proper pruning can also help to control this pathogen. Prune in the dormant season to open the center of the trees and reduce crowding in the canopy. Light and wind penetration helps leaves to dry more quickly, leading to lower infection rates. Pruned off twig and branch material should be burned or bagged and sent to the landfill. This goes for any fallen or infected leaves also.

Xanthomonas can survive in a compost pile, so it is best to discard infected plant materials using the other methods discussed. Fertilizing trees properly promotes vigorous growth, which also helps to keep this disease at bay. Be sure to soil test at least once to determine the rates at which your trees need to be fertilized. Your AgCenter agents can assist you with this!

Most fruit trees need at least some level of care in order to thrive and produce a good crop of fruit in Louisiana. Peaches are one of the more difficult fruits to grow here, but the rewards can be sweet!

~Anna Timmerman

Photo by Anna Timmerman



More advanced stage of bacterial leaf spot on peach tree leaves.



Late-season infection of bacterial spot results in superficial damage.

Photo credit: Alabama A&M Extension

Resources:

Cornell Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic:
<http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/factsheets/bacteriaspotpeach.pdf>

Alabama A&M and Auburn Extension:
<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/crop-production/bacterial-spot-treatment-in-peaches/>



Weed of the Month - Asiatic Hawksbeard (*Youngia japonica*)

A common weed found in lawns and gardens all over the south, Asiatic hawksbeard (*Youngia japonica*) is a native of tropical and subtropical Asia and Australia that has spread nearly worldwide. In the U.S., it is found in Hawaii and from Pennsylvania to Texas and all southeastern states (Zones 5a through 10b).

Asiatic hawksbeard is an herbaceous annual member of the Asteraceae family. In appearance, it is a basal rosette of lobed, slightly hairy leaves 3-6" long and 1-3" wide with hairy petioles. Slender stems (6-24" long) arise from the rosette (Figure 1) that branch and terminate in inflorescences of small (0.5" diameter) yellow aster-like flowers with toothed petals (ligules) on the ray flowers (Figure 2). The plant exudes a milky sap when cut (Figure 3). Flowers produce achenes (small, dry, one-seeded fruit) with an attached pappus (Figure 4). A pappus is a parachute-like structure with a ring of fine hairs that aid in wind dispersal. Plants are prolific seed producers and their efficient wind dispersal mechanism has led to widespread distribution.



Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

Figure 2: Asteraceae flower of *Youngia japonica* with toothed petals on ray flowers.



Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

Figure 1: Tall stem arising from basal rosette branches and terminates in flower inflorescence.

Asiatic hawksbeard prefers sunny moist locations but is very adaptable. It grows in a broad range of soil pH and proliferates in shady to sunny locations and soils of varying moisture. It often occurs at disturbed sites but can be found growing almost anywhere it finds a little soil.

Plants typically are easily removed by hand but, to be effective, control must be accomplished prior to seed formation. Pre-emergence herbicides such as flumioxazin or oxyfluorfen+pendimethalin are effective when applied prior to seed germination. Post-emergence broad-spectrum herbicides like glyphosate or glufosinate and broadleaf herbicides like triclopyr can be used for spot treatment

according to label directions.

However, leaves of *Youngia japonica* are edible and can be used raw in salads or as a cooked green. Medicinal benefits attributed to *Youngia japonica* include treatment for coughs, fever, boils, and snakebites. NIH studies have shown antiviral and anticancer activity from plant extracts.

~ Joe W. Willis

Resources

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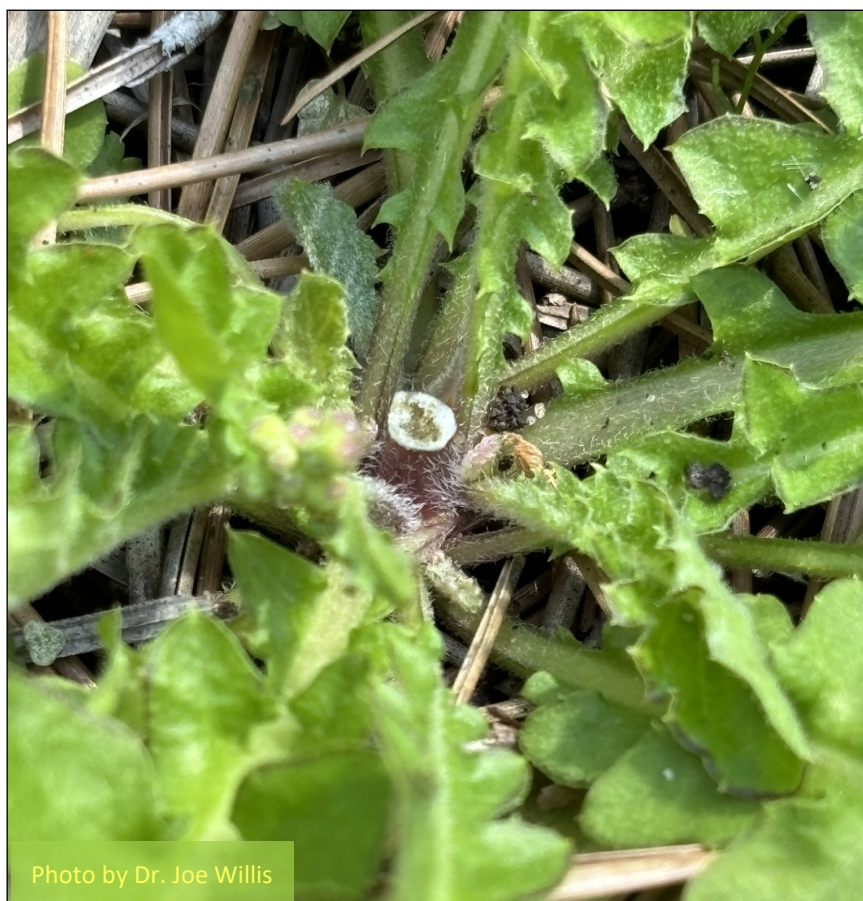


Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

Figure 3: Milky sap oozes from cut stem. Note the hairy petioles radiating from the center with a basal rosette of slightly hairy, lobed leaves.



Photo by Dr. Joe Willis

Figure 4: Seeds of Asiatic hawksbeard – achenes with a pappus parachute attached.

Anticancer and antiviral activities of *Youngia japonica* (L.) DC (Asteraceae, Compositae). Journal of Ethnopharmacology, Volume 94, Issue 1, September 2004, Pages 117-122.

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Youngia japonica. NCSU. [Youngia japonica \(Asiatic, Asiatic Hawksbeard, Crepis Japonica, Hawksbeard, Oriental False Hawksbeard, Oriental Hawksbeard\) | North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox \(ncsu.edu\)](#)

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What's Bugging You?

Cicadas

Not only are cicada insects some of the largest insects on our continent, but they are also some of the most spectacular insects that most of us encounter in our lives. Have you ever been on vacation or traveled outside of the region and wondered why the sounds of nature were different at night in other locations? There's a good chance you are familiar with the sounds of cicada insects even if you couldn't pick one out of line up.

Before going any further into this article, we must dispel a common myth. Cicadas are not locusts. I still hear folks referring to cicadas as locusts and that is absolutely not the case. Locust is a general term given to several species of short-horned grasshoppers in the Acrididae insect family that go through a distinct swarming phase in their life cycle. When environmental conditions force overcrowding (increased competition for food and water sources), these grasshoppers can go into a swarm phase. Serotonin levels increase, causing them to change color, feed more, and breed. These grasshopper (locust) swarms have been documented back in ancient times. I don't find it too difficult to see how the sudden emergence of cicadas in the spring and all the racket they make can confuse some folks with locust swarms and plagues read about in history books. All that said, you are now informed on the matter.

Cicadas on the other hand are in a completely different insect order. They are members of the order Hemiptera, commonly referred to as "true bugs". Other related insects in this order that you may be

familiar with include aphids, scales, and even bedbugs. They all display a hemimetabolous life cycle that consists of three phases: egg, nymph, and adult. Nymphs are smaller and resemble the adult stage. This is different from holometabolous insects like butterflies who produce a larval stage that is



Photo by Roy Troutman

An adult Swamp Cicada, *Neotibicen tibicen tibicen*

completely different than the adult. Once nymphs reach maturity (2-5 years, annual cicadas; 13-17 years, periodical cicadas) they emerge from the soil and go through their final molt. Anyone who grew up in Louisiana is familiar with cicada exuvia or the shells left behind after the final molt. I can recall some distant elementary school memories where we would try to find as many cicada sheds as possible around the live oak trees that lined the playground at Highland Elementary School in Baton Rouge. All members of Hemiptera have piercing-sucking mouthparts and typically feed on plant sap. Cicada nymphs live and feed on plant roots underground whereas adults feed on trees. Adults feed very little and spend most of their time finding a mate to complete their lifecycle. Although feeding on plant

roots seems like it could harm trees, they do not as these insect plant relationships have evolved over time. The cicada receives nutrition, and the root zone of the tree is aerated as nymphs burrow their way to the soil surface.

Most of the nearly 3000 species of cicadas from around the world (at least 75 species native to North America) are grouped together as annual cicadas, meaning that some emerge from the ground every year. *Neotibicen* is a genus of annual cicadas referred to as “dog day cicadas” and several species within this genus are found in Louisiana. Many of the ½ inch holes seen in the ground within the understory of landscape trees during spring and early summer months can be traced back to the emergence of a *Neotibicen* species.

A few species under the genus, *Magicicada*, are known as periodical cicadas where nymphs stay underground for 13 or 17 years. These nymphs can be categorized into distinct populations called broods and then labeled with a roman numeral. You may have read something online about the emergence of Brood XIX, a 13-year periodical cicada group that hatched from an egg, dropped to the ground, and burrowed into the soil back in 2011. Brood XIX is a 13 year periodical cicada brood that should be emerging from the ground this year. Both experts and enthusiasts get excited about periodical cicada emergence and promote observation within the

public. iNaturalist.net and bugguide.org are two online platforms the public can use for this purpose.

The sounds, or more aptly songs, of cicadas are characteristic of each species and used to attract females during mating. Males use a specialized body part known as a tymbal to produce sounds. Using muscles these males vibrate their tymbals to deliver a high pitch buzz in various tempos and melodies. These have been recorded by experts and used to help enthusiasts in identifying and tracking various species and periodical cicada hatches across the country. A list of cicada species found in Louisiana along



An annual cicada going through the last stages of development after emerging from the hardened exuvia attached to a live oak tree in Mandeville, LA.

with information about the songs of each species can be found at <https://www.cicadamania.com/cicadas/common-cicadas-of-louisiana/>.

It was mentioned earlier that cicada insects feed on our native trees. To a layperson this may seem like a reason to manage these insects and take precautions to prevent their occurrence. Our native trees have evolved with cicadas and therefore do not require any special maintenance to prevent cicada feeding. So instead of searching for insecticides that kill these creatures, take a minute to learn about their biology, listen to their songs, and share your experience with others. Nature can be beautiful once you take the time to learn about it.

~William Afton

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A cicada nymph feeding on tree roots in the soil,
Photo Credit: Gardener's Path 2021



An adult cicada with piercing/sucking mouthparts on display. Photo Credit: Dan Mozgai

Soil Solarization

Harness the Power of the Sun

With the heat of the summer fully on us, it can be difficult to work in the garden. The intense heat alone makes growing many vegetable crops nearly impossible.

Combine this with battling weeds, pests, and disease can discourage many gardeners from their passion. Fortunately there is a great tool that can combat these myriad issues for us while we take a needed break while planning for our fall season crops. Soil solarization harnesses the power of the sun to sterilize our garden soil and eliminate many insects pests, weed seeds, nematodes and disease pathogens. Solarization is also a great way to summerize gardens to keep them healthy, cut down on watering and weeding chores, and prepare soil for a successful fall

To start, remove large plants and debris from the area. Next, water the area thoroughly. As the soil heats up, it is the water vapor penetrating the soil that does the actual work to cleanse the soil. For sandy or well drained soil, place a soaker hose before the plastic and irrigate when you stop seeing water drops condensed under the plastic in the mornings.

Purchase clear plastic sheeting from any home improvement store, a thickness of at least 2 millimeters is best. Use clear plastic because it lets the sunlight in to heat the soil directly and trapping it inside. Black or solid colored plastic will work to kill grass and weeds but does not allow the heat to penetrate as deeply.

Cover the soil with plastic and bury the edges in the soil to create a sealed environment. If the plastic is not wide enough to cover the entire garden area, then overlap the edges of two sheets and roll them to create a seal. Keep the soil covered for a minimum of six weeks to really see all of the benefits of solarization.



Leave the plastic in place for 6-8 weeks.



Water the area to allow the heat to penetrate deeper and create steam.



Spread the plastic over the area creating a sealed envelope.

That is it! Solarizing captures the heat of the sun, trapping heat and cooking pests into oblivion.

Benefits:

1. Works as an insecticide
2. Works as a fungicide.
3. Works as an herbicide.
4. Totally organic!

~Chris Dunaway

Get Out Of My Tree (Get Into My Jar)

Hey! You! Get into my Jar! Is the thought that may run through your mind as you're coming down the road... questioning "What's that plant growing near that door?" While summertime brings a bounty of blooms, Vitex steals the show. This medium shrub/small tree blooms all summer long, with the fragrance attracting pollinators and people passing by alike. Popular flower colors include a violet-blue variety ('Shoal Creek'), and an out of this world pink ('Galactic Pink'). Vitex makes an excellent selection for cut flowers, with their fragrant flowers and hues that can be as blue as the *Ocean*. Furthermore, Vitex's long blooming season and above average tolerance to drought can provide that beautiful bouquet or aesthetic arrangement all throughout summer. Wondering where to plant it?

Vitex loves full sun, shining on through. Looking for the perfect fit for your landscape? This Cinderella will step in that shoe.

It'll be your favorite flower, cut them while you can, For pinks, blues, and purples – Vitex is your plant You will be saying "Get out of my tree... get into my jar" all summer long as you clip the flowers from this plant. Plant it in the backyard maybe? You're out of your mind if you do – it's a plant to showcase for the whole neighborhood. So get Vitex into your life.... And then into your jar.

~Dr. Damon Abdi



Photo by Anna Ribbeck

A Shoal Creek vitex tree on the LSU Campus in Baton Rouge, LA



The flower spikes of a shoal creek vitex.

In the Kitchen with Austin

Succotash

For me, succotash is like summertime on a plate. Hopefully, you will enjoy this recipe as much as I do.

Ingredients:

2 cup lima beans

3 Tbs. butter

1 cup onion, chopped

1 garlic clove, minced

1 cup okra, sliced

3 cup corn kernels

1 cup cherry tomatoes, halved

Salt & pepper, to taste

¼ cup parsley, torn



A skillet of freshly made succotash.

Directions:

Cover lima beans with water in a medium saucepan and boil gently until tender, about 10 minutes. Drain and set aside.

Melt butter in a skillet over medium heat. Add onion, garlic, and okra, stirring until onion is tender.

Stir in lima beans, corn, tomatoes, and salt & pepper. Cook until veggies are to your preferred tenderness.

Remove from heat, stir in parsley, and enjoy.

Bien Manger

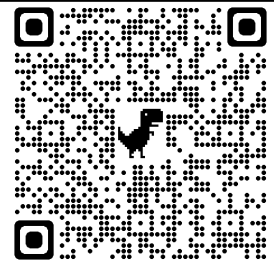
Help Support Horticulture programs in the Greater New Orleans Area

Funding helps the LSU AgCenter agents provide help for:

- School and Community Gardens
- Seed Libraries
- Demonstration Gardens
- Educational Scholarships
- Local Research
- and Much More



A Louisiana Master Gardener leads a group of kids on a tour of the vegetable garden at LaSalle Park in Jefferson Parish, LA



Scan the QR code above to go to the LSU Foundation donation webpage.

Click here or go to: <https://bit.ly/3UQRS7H>

Search for **Greater New Orleans Horticulture Support Fund**

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Orleans Parish

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Mid-City

500 N. Norman C. Francis
Thursdays from 3-7PM
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- City Park

Tad Gormley Stadium parking lot at
Marconi and Navarre
Sundays from 8AM-Noon
Preorder contact-free drive through only,
info at www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

Crescent City Farmer's Market- Uptown

200 Broadway
Tuesdays from 8AM-Noon
Walk-up and curbside pre-orders, info at
www.crescentcityfarmersmarket.org

SPROUT NOLA Truck Farm Table

200 N. Broad (In Whole Foods lobby or in
parking lot, weather permitting)
Walk up <https://www.sproutnolaform.org/>

Vietnamese Farmer's Market

14401 Alcee Fortier Blvd., New Orleans East
Saturdays, 5:30AM-8:30AM

Marketplace at Armstrong Park

901 N. Rampart
Thursdays from 3-7PM
<https://www.facebook.com/MarketplaceArmstrongPark/>

New Orleans French Market

Lower Decatur Street
Daily, 9AM-6PM

Mid-City Arts and Farmer's Market

Comiskey Park, New Orleans
Market dates vary.
Check <http://midcityaf.org>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hubs

Pick up points vary, pre-orders available
Bywater, Broadmoor, Lakeview, Irish
Channel, Mid-City, Algiers Point, Uptown
Locations
[https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/](https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/events)
events

Barcelo Gardens Farmer's Market- Upper 9th Ward

2301 Gallier Street at the garden, Saturdays
from 10AM-1PM
3440 Piety Street Fresh Market open daily,
weekly bulk produce sale.
<https://www.facebook.com/BarceloGardens/>

Bywater Market at Trap Kitchen-Bywater

1043 Poland Ave
Sundays from 10AM-3PM

BOUNYFUL Farmer's Market-Algiers Point

4123 Woodland Dr. Algiers
First and Third Sundays of the month, from
10AM-1PM
<https://www.bounyfulgreenmarket.com/>

Sankofa Fresh Stop Market

Coming soon!
<https://sankofanola.org/rfqqs/>

Sheaux Fresh Sustainable Foods- Treme-Laffite

585 N. Claiborne at Lafitte Greenway
(under overpass)
Check for current dates/times at
www.sheauxfresh.org

FUBU Market

3101 Erato Street New Orleans, location
changes, check website/social media
<https://www.facebook.com/TheFUBUMarket>
www.fubumarket.com/

St. Tammany Parish

Covington Farmers' Market

Covington Police Department
609 North Columbia St., Covington, LA 70433
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
Covington Trailhead
419 N. New Hampshire
Wednesday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (rain or
shine)www.covingtonfarmersmarket.org
General information: 985.966.1786

Mandeville Trailhead Community Market

Mandeville Trailhead
675 Lafitte St, Mandeville, LA 70448
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheMandevilleTrailhead)
TheMandevilleTrailhead
985.624.3147

Madisonville Market

Riverside Park South
Water St., Madisonville, LA 70447
Sunday: 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
www.madisonvillemarket.org

Folsom Village Market

Hwy 40, one block east of Hwy 25
Saturday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM (weather per-
mitting)
Every 2nd and 4th Saturday
985.507.6496 (daytime only)

Abita Springs Art and Farmers' Market

22049 Main St., Abita Springs, LA 70420
Sunday: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.townofabitasprings.com/](https://www.townofabitasprings.com/farmers-market)
farmers-market
985.892.0711

Camellia City Farmer's Market

Old Towne Slidell
333 Erlanger St. (Corner of Third St.)
Saturday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM (rain or shine)
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/CamelliaCityMarket/)
CamelliaCityMarket/
985.640.7112

St. Charles Parish

Luling Farmer's Market at Westbank Bridge Park-Luling

13825 River Road, Luling, LA
Wednesdays, from 1-5PM
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

German Coast Farmer's Market

160 West Campus Drive, Destrehan, LA
Saturdays, from 8AM-Noon
<http://www.germancoastfarmersmarket.org/>

Farmers Markets in the GNO Area

Jefferson Parish

Gretna Farmer's Market

739 Third Street, Gretna
Every Saturday, except the Saturday of
Gretna Fest, 8:30AM-12:30PM
<https://www.gretnala.com/visitors/farmers-market/>

Nawlins Outdoor Market

1048 Scotsdale Dr., Harvey
Every Saturday & Sunday, 9AM-5PM
<https://www.facebook.com/NawlinsMarket/>

Jean Lafitte Town Market-Lafitte

920 Jean Lafitte Blvd.
Last Saturday of the month, 9AM-1PM
<https://www.facebook.com/JeanLafitteLa/>

Lafreniere Park Market-Metairie

3000 Downs Blvd.
Wednesdays, from 2-7PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064920097975>

Westwego Farmer's Market

484 Sala Ave., Westwego
3rd Tuesday of the month, 10AM-2PM
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100075979938725>

Westwego Shrimp Lot

100 Westbank Expressway at Louisiana St.,
Westwego
Daily Mon-Thurs 8AM-6PM, Fri 8AM-7PM,
Sat 7AM-7PM, and Sun 7AM-6PM
<https://www.facebook.com/officialwestwegoshrimplot>

Laughing Buddha Farm Hub-Clearview

4516 Clearview
Store Pickups, preorder online at <https://www.laughingbuddhanursery.com/buy-groceries-1>

Harahan Farmer's Market

501 Oak Ave., Zeringue Park, Harahan
Sundays, 9AM-1PM
<https://www.facebook.com/HarahanMarket>

Rivertown Farmer's Market

400 Block of Williams Blvd., Kenner
Thursdays Noon-6PM (Off for August)
<https://www.facebook.com/RivertownFarmersMarket>

Old Metairie Farmer's Market

Bayou Metairie Park, Between Metairie Lawn
Dr. and Labarre
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3:30PM-
7:30PM** Check for seasonal dates!
<https://www.oldmetairegardenclub.com/tag/farmers-art-metairie-market/>

Local Independent Garden Centers

Jefferson

Perino's Garden Center	3100 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 834-7888
Rose Garden Center	4005 Westbank Expressway, Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 341-5664
Rose Garden & Pet Store	5420 Lapalco Blvd., Marrero, LA 70072	(504) 347-8777
Banting's Nursery	3425 River Rd., Bridge City, LA 70094	(504) 436-4343
Jefferson Feed	4421 Jefferson Hwy., Jefferson, LA 70121	(504) 733-8572
Nine Mile Point Plant Nursery	2141 River Rd., Westwego, LA 70094	(504) 436-4915
Palm Garden Depot	351 Hickory Ave., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 305-6170
Double M Feed Harahan	8400 Jefferson Hwy., Harahan, LA 70123	(504) 738-5007
Double M Feed Metairie	3212 W. Esplanade Ave., Metairie, LA 70002	(504) 835-9800
Double M Feed Terrytown	543 Holmes Blvd., Terrytown, LA 70056	(504) 361-4405
Sunrise Trading Co. Inc.	42 3 rd St., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 469-0077
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-4336
Creative Gardens & Landscape	2309 Manhattan Blvd., Harvey, LA 70058	(504) 367-9099
Plumeria Insanity Nursery	https://www.facebook.com/Plumeria-Insanity-Nursery-102123651930419	

Soil Vendors

Schmelly's Dirt Farm	8301 Olive St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 535-GROW
Laughing Buddha Garden Center	4516 Clearview Pkwy., Metairie, LA 70006	(504) 887-433
Reliable Soil	725 Reverand Richard Wilson Dr., Kenner, LA 70062	(504) 467-1078
Renaissance Gardens	9123 W. Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA 70043	(504) 682-9911
Rock n' Soil NOLA	9119 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-0908
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713

If you would like your licensed retail nursery listed, please email gnogardening@agcenter.lsu.edu

Local Independent Garden Centers

Orleans		
Urban Roots	2375 Tchoupitoulas St., New Orleans, LA 70130	(504) 522-4949
The Plant Gallery	9401 Airline Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 488-8887
Harold's Plants	1135 Press St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 947-7554
We Bite Rare and Unusual Plants	1225 Mandeville St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 380-4628
Hot Plants	1715 Feliciana St., New Orleans, LA 70117	www.hotplantsnursery.com
Pelican Greenhouse Sales	2 Celebration Dr., New Orleans, LA 70124	(504) 483-9437
Grow Wiser Garden Supply	2109 Decatur St., New Orleans, LA 70116	(504) 644-4713
Jefferson Feed Mid-City	309 N. Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70119	(504) 488-8118
Jefferson Feed Uptown	6047 Magazine St., New Orleans, LA 70118	(504) 218-4220
Ninth Ward Nursery	2641 Deslonde St., New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 296-8398
Crazy Plant Bae	800 N. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans LA 70119	(504) 327-7008
Canopy Plant Company	6030 St. Claude, New Orleans, LA 70117	(504) 381-4033
Too Tall Nursery	2817 N. Roman, New Orleans, LA 70117	tootallfarm@gmail.com
Plantery NOLA	Pop Up Locations	www.planterynola.com
Canopy Plant Co.	Pop Up and Online Sales	www.canopyplantco.com
New Orleans Succulent Boutique	Online Sales	https://sites.google.com/view/nolasucculentshop/home
Root Life Mobile Plant Nursery	Pop Up Locations	https://rootlifeplantnursery.com/



Photo by Chris Dunaway

Acres of Brussel's sprouts growing in the vegetable belt in California.

June Checklist/Garden Tips

During dry weather don't forget to keep your compost pile evenly moist. Dry organic matter will not decompose. Do not, however, keep the pile saturated as that can cause bad odors.

Be sure that your citrus trees receive enough water to prevent fruit split.

Apply paint or shade cloth to greenhouses to prevent heat buildup. Fans should run just about constantly.

Prune climbing roses and ramblers that bloom on one year old growth now if needed to shape and train them.

Prepare trees for hurricane season by pruning out all weak, rotting or dead branches. Remove dead or rotten trees that might blow over in high winds.

Remove any flowers that appear on caladiums or coleus to promote continued production of colorful foliage.

When a gladiolus finishes blooming, prune off the faded flower spike but leave the foliage intact. The foliage will produce food that is stored in the newly developing corm ensuring a large, healthy corm that will bloom well next year.

Trim dead flowers from chrysanthemums that bloomed earlier if you have not done so already. Cut plants back about half way and fertilize to encourage vigorous growth. Pinch vigorous shoots over the next six weeks to create a bushier, fuller plant. Do not pinch or cut back after late July.

Plant a row or two of peanuts in the home garden now as early summer crops are pulled up. Shell raw peanuts and plant about three to four seeds per foot of row. Water once a day until the seeds come up. Peanuts also make an excellent green manure crop. Just as the plants come into flower turn them under. They will enrich the soil with nitrogen and organic matter. Allow the bed to sit for a few weeks while the organic matter decomposes, and you will be ready to plant a fall crop.

Dig and store gladiolus corms after the foliage turns brown. The largest corms are the ones that will flower next year.

Watch the rainfall you receive carefully, as it varies widely around the area. Cut back on irrigation whenever your garden receives one half inch or more of rain. Over watering is entirely possible if you are not careful, and that can lead to fungus problems such as stem, crown and root rot.

High temperatures and high humidity create a high heat index here in the summer. Adjust your gardening schedule to take advantage of cooler times of the day. Remember to drink plenty of water.

Spray peach tree trunks with permethrin to prevent the peach tree borer from getting into the trunk and causing damage.

Keep caladiums well watered during hot, dry weather to keep the foliage in good shape through the summer. Fertilize occasionally to encourage vigorous growth. Break off any flowers that form.

Lawn Care Do's & Don't's

Do's:

2. Irrigate as necessary to moisten the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches.
3. Aerate the soil if necessary to alleviate compaction.
4. You may fertilize Your lawn in June if desired. See page 5 of the [Louisiana Lawns Best Management Guide](#) for information about proper fertilization rates for your turf grass variety.
5. Dethatch the lawn if necessary.
6. Spread fill soil and compost over the lawn to add organic material and smooth out the lawn. Do not add more than 2 inches over actively growing grass.
7. Set your mower to the correct height. See page 5 of the [Louisiana Lawns Best Management Guide](#) for information about proper mowing height for your turf grass variety.
8. You may still plant warm season grasses such as St. Augustine, centipede, bermuda and zoysia. You may need to pay particular attention to watering properly. Do not let the new grass dry out.

Grass Type	Suggested Mowing Height	Mow When Grass Reaches This Height
Bermuda	3/4" - 1"	1.25" - 1.5"
Centipede	1" - 2"	1.5" - 3"
St. Augustine	2" - 4"	3" - 6"
Zoysia	1" - 2"	1.5" - 3"

The table above shows the correct cutting height for different varieties of commonly used turfgrasses for our area. Set the mower to the suggested mowing height in the middle column and cut when the grass reaches the suggested maximum height in the right column.

Mowing height is determined by measuring from the ground to the bottom of the mower deck.

Don't's

1. Do not apply selective herbicides (weed killer) to the lawn. It is too hot. Pull weeds by hand or spot treat with non-selective herbicides.
2. Do not cut more than 1/3 of the height at a single time.

Your Local Extension Office is Here to Help



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For more information visit [LSUAgCenter.com](#)

Dr. Joe Willis
Orleans Parish
Horticulture Agent
JWillis@agcenter.lsu.edu

Anna Timmerman
Plaquemines & St. Bernard
Parish Horticulture Agent
Timmerman@agcenter.lsu.edu

Chris Dunaway
Jefferson Parish
Horticulture Agent
CDunaway@agcenter.lsu.edu

Will Afton
St. Tammany Parish
Horticulture Agent
WAfton@agcenter.lsu.edu

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